

P/1318-149

AGGREGATION AND DISSEMINATION OF
HARDWARE AND SOFTWARE INVENTORY DATA

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

5 A system and method that automates the task of
collecting information from different locations on the
Internet and converts it from a variety of downloaded
formats to standardized or consolidated formats for easier
presentation and understanding. The invention includes a
10 Raw Information Retriever, which communicates with various
data providers via the Internet or other types of data
lines. The raw information is supplied to a data collector
which standardizes, consolidates or correlates information
gathered from different sources and supplies it to an
15 analyzer and report generator that provides the information
to a user in a format that is easier to use or analyze the
significance of gathered data.